

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Claims 16-20 are currently withdrawn. Applicants have amended Claim 1.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 5, and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,899,937 (Haruch).

Independent Claim 1

Amended Claim 1 specifies “the spray tip, the cap body, and the flow regulating insert defining a flow path along a single axis.”

Haruch discloses an inlet port 16, a nozzle body 11, and a cap 22 having a discharge orifice 25 and a deflector flange 26. As shown in Figures 2 and 3 of Haruch, the inlet port 16 receives liquid from a liquid supply. The liquid flows through the inlet port 16 and into the nozzle body 11. The liquid flow path defined by the nozzle body 11 is generally perpendicular to the liquid flow path defined by the inlet port 16. As a result, the flow path defined by the inlet port 16 is not in the same axis as the nozzle body 11 and the discharge orifice 25. In addition, the deflector flange 26 of Haruch directs the particles into a spray pattern transverse to the axis of the nozzle body 11. Accordingly, the deflector flange 26 defines a flow path that is not in the same axis as the nozzle body 11 and the discharge orifice 25.

Thus, Haruch does not disclose a spray tip, a cap body, and a flow regulating insert that define a flow path along a single axis, as specified by Claim 1. Therefore, independent Claim 1 and dependent Claims 2-15 are allowable.

Dependent Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7-9

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Haruch. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7-9 depend from Claim 1 and are therefore allowable for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1. Claims 2, 3, 5, and 7-9 also define additional patentable subject matter not specifically discussed herein.

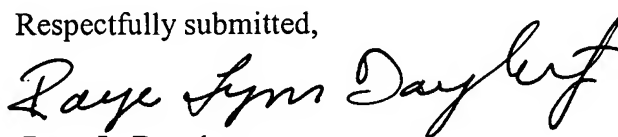
CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 4-6, and 10-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haruch in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,564,448 (Lincoln). Claims 4-6 and 10-15 depend from Claim 1 and are therefore allowable for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1. Claims 4-6 and 10-15 also define additional patentable subject matter not specifically discussed herein.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment and allowance of Claims 1-15.

Respectfully submitted,



Raye L. Daugherty
Reg. No. 47,933

File No. 085455-9105-00
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108
(414) 271-6560